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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Cancelled)

3. (currently amended) The assembly according to Claim 2- 15 wherein the first and second receivers are hollow, elongated parallel channels spaced inwardly from the first and second side edges of the main portion of the stud member and extending the length thereof.

4. (original) The assembly according to Claim 3 wherein the stud member and the elongated channels are extruded from metal.

5. (original) The assembly according to Claim 4 wherein the clip member has first and second parallel elongated stabilizing bars attached thereto extending downwardly from the main portion thereof.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) The assembly according to Claim 6- 16 further including a second elongated hollow channel on the main portion of the stud member spaced from the first elongated channel and extending parallel thereto, and a second elongated stabilizing bar attached to the clip member dimensioned to slidably fit into the second elongated channel on the stud member.

1 8. (Currently amended) The assembly according to Claim 6 16
2 wherein the clip member comprises a generally U-shaped member
3 having a flat main portion with downwardly turned ends for fitting
4 into a mating track mounted above the location of the stud member,
5 and wherein the stabilizing bar extends substantially
6 perpendicularly downwardly from the main portion of the clip
7 member.

8 9. (canceled)

9 10. (Cancelled)

10 11. (Cancelled)

11 12. (Cancelled)

12 13. (Cancelled)

13 14. (Cancelled)

14 15. (New) A metal stud and clip assembly for use in a non-
15 load-bearing wall to allow a horizontal ceiling or floor to
16 vertically float thereon, the assembly including in combination:

17 an elongated metal stud member having a generally U-
18 shaped cross section including a main portion with first and second
19 edges and having first and second side members attached,
20 respectively, to the first and second edges of the main portion;

21 first and second receivers attached to the main portion
22 of the stud member and each spaced inwardly a predetermined
23 distance from the first and second side members; and

24 a clip member having a first portion for attachment to a
25 surface located above the stud and having first and second

1 elongated stabilizing bars attached thereto and extending
2 downwardly to slidably engage the first and second receivers,
3 respectively, on the stud member to allow relative vertical
4 movement between the stud member and the stabilizing bar.

5 16. (New) A metal stud and clip assembly for use in a non-
6 load-bearing wall to allow a horizontal ceiling or floor to
7 vertically float thereon, the assembly including in combination:

8 an elongated metal stud member having a generally U-
9 shaped cross section including a main portion with first and second
10 edges and having first and second side members attached,
11 respectively, to the first and second edges of the main portion;

12 at least a first receiver attached to the main portion of
13 the stud member and spaced inwardly a predetermined distance from
14 the first and second side members, the first receiver comprising an
15 elongated hollow channel extending parallel to the first and second
16 edges of the main portion of the stud member; and

17 a clip member having a first portion for attachment to a
18 surface located above the stud and having at least a first
19 elongated stabilizing bar attached thereto and extending downwardly
20 to slidably fit into the elongated channel on the stud member to
21 allow relative vertical movement between the stud member and the
22 stabilizing bar.